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Date 2/2/04

Sig: Marjorie Scariati
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**IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT : Izuo Horai et al.

SERIAL NO. : 10/715,767

TITLE : SURFACE INSPECTION METHOD AND SURFACE
INSPECTION APPARATUS

FILED : 11/18/2003

EXAMINER : Unassigned

GROUP ART : Unassigned

ATTY DOCKET: 414023US

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PROPOSED DRAWING CHANGES

Sir:

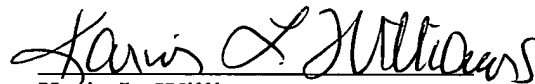
Applicant hereby requests the Examiner's approval of the following proposed change to the Figures in the above-identified application. For the Examiner's convenience, a set of replacement drawings are attached, as well as a copy of the original

drawing sheets indicating the desired changes.

The changes made to the drawings include only the deletion of the brackets around each Figure number, and deletion of the words "the existence of" in the text of reference number 102 in Figure 2. No new matter has been added.

An indication of the Examiner's approval of the foregoing proposed changes is respectfully requested in the next Patent Office communication. Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this Request or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicants' attorney at (908) 518-7700 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Karin L. Williams".

Karin L. Williams

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